



DRA Water Branch News

Upcoming Water Events

July 24, 2006

Volume 1, Issue 1

NRDC & PGE Hosted Workshop July 17th in Downey on Energy Savings from Water Efficiency Measures

"The Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) and Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) conducted an informal workshop to address the process for the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to begin an inquiry into the embedded (or "upstream") energy savings associated with water efficiency. In particular, the workshop addressed the specific policy questions raised by the CPUC concerning identifying, measuring, and "counting" the embedded energy savings associated with reduced water usage arising from energy efficiency measures saving both water and energy in the investor-owned utilities' energy efficiency portfolios."



Photo of San Clemente Dam, Carmel, CA

Southern California Gas Company
Energy Resource Center
9240 Firestone Boulevard
Downey, California

July 17, 2006 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

"These issues were addressed in the May 24, 2006 'ASSIGNED COMMISSIONER'S RULING AND SCOPING MEMO AND NOTICE OF PHASE 1 WORKSHOPS ON RISK/RETURN INCENTIVE MECHANISM', particularly Attachment 1 to that Ruling as well as pp. 12-15 and 22-23. The Commission has asked for opening comments responding to the questions in Attachment 1 on July 24, 2006 and reply comments on August 11, 2006. The majority of this workshop will be spent discussing those questions to see what areas of agreement may exist among parties. For more information about the topic and to access a copy of the Ruling, please see <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/PUBLISHED/RULINGS/56598.htm>."

Cheryl Cox, from DRA's Electric Resources and Pricing Branch, attended this workshop on behalf of DRA. She is drafting DRA's comments on this matter. Diana Brooks is coordinating with her on issues affecting water utilities.

Special Points of Interest:

- Reducing water use can save significant amounts of energy.
- A study by the Pacific Institute and NRDC found that if San Diego relied on conservation, instead of additional water from Northern California, to provide the next 100,000 acre-feet of water it would save enough energy to provide electricity for 25 percent of all of the households in San Diego.

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CPUC—CUWCC Information Exchange August 23rd

August 23rd, 8:30 a.m. to 4:20 p.m., CPUC Auditorium - **DRAFT AGENDA**

8:30 a.m.	Council Overview - Mary Ann Dickinson
9:00	Council Resources and BMP Reporting - Beth Ernsberger
10:00	Water Loss Control—TBA
10:20	Q&A
10:35	CPUC Overview, Water Division Overview; ALJ Division Overview -- Kevin Coughlan & Michelle Cooke (specific topics to be named)
11:35	Break. Lunch delivered.
11:50	DRA Issues (e.g. Conservation Budget Evaluation)--Cynthia Walker
12:20 p.m.	BMP coverage calculator - David Mitchell
12:45	Cost-Effectiveness spreadsheets - David Mitchell
1:35	Avoided Cost Model - Tom Chesnutt
2:15	Break
2:25	Conservation Rate Structure Spreadsheets - Tom Chesnutt
3:00	CPUC Rate Structure Policies -- Stephen St. Marie
3:35	Quantifying Environmental Benefits - Katie Shulte Joung
4:05	Next Steps in Partnership

(-Information provided by Ted Howard, Strategic Planning Division)



Advocating on behalf of
California consumers to
keep utility rates low!

www.dra.ca.gov

For questions, or ideas
for future issues,
contact:

Diana Brooks

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August 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 DHS Meeting	18	19
20	21	22	23 CPUC- CUWCC	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Securing Clean and Affordable Water—September 12th

The Water Action Plan recognizes that California's private water utilities face a growing crisis in maintaining clean water supplies, including complying with increasingly stringent water quality standards. Many water utilities are confronted with financial hardship and insolvency. These issues are compounded by widespread pollution, particularly from the very difficult to control non-point sources (e.g. agricultural and urban runoff). The possibility of other threats to water supply, including but not limited to levee breaks, global warming, drought (the recent record rainfall notwithstanding), and lack of private-public cooperation, makes imperative a concerted effort by the CPUC and partner agencies to develop and enforce policies which will decrease the probability and magnitude of this water quality crisis.

To bring a sharpened focus to these issues, the CPUC is planning a symposium on Tuesday, September 12th, at the Elihu Harris State Building in Oakland. Co-sponsors are the CA Department of Health Services, CA Department of Water Resources, and State Water Resources Control Board. Commissioner Bohn will chair the event.

The symposium draft agenda currently consists of four panel discussions, with experts from the public and private sectors:

- 1) Emerging Water Quality Standards
- 2) Existing Water Quality Treatment Technologies
- 3) Public-Private Partnerships to Increase Water Utility Viability
- 4) Commissioner Bohn White Paper: "Accessing Clean and Affordable Water"

In addition to the panel discussions, the event will provide a tutorial session on financing alternatives for small private water utilities. Also, the CPUC is reserving space for technology demonstrations and exhibits by companies with currently effective water quality technologies.

Please mark September 12th on your calendars, and let Ted Howard in the CPUC Division of Strategic Planning know if you have any comments or suggestions. He can be reached at (415) 703-1114 or trh@cpuc.ca.gov (-From Ted Howard, Strategic Planning Division)



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**** DRA Water Branch will be holding an offsite for staff and attorneys at Asilomar, September 6,7 and 8th. Save the dates! More information coming soon...**